

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

USMISSTIN USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0182

ATHENS ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: KYPRIANOU DEMARCH ON EMBARGO LIFTING REPORT

REF: (A) 77 STATE 309172 (NOTAL), (B) ANKARA 0569 (NOTAL),
(C) ANKARA 0568 (NOTAL)

1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU CALLED CHARGE IN MORNING JAN 23 TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN ABOUT NEWS REPORTS FROM ANKARA WHICH INDICATE US MIGHT BE CHANGING ITS VIEW ON THE LINKAGE OF CYPRUS PROBLEM WITH TURKISH DCA. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES WAS ALSO PRESENT.

2. KYPRIANOU WAS "VERY WORRIED" BY REPORTS OF JAN 21 REMARKS BY PRIMIN ECEVIT AND "US OFFICIALS CLOSE TO SECRETARY VANCE." IN AN AP REPORT, MR. ECEVIT WAS REPORTED AS SAYING THAT SECRETARY VANCE ACCEPTS THAT THE CYPRUS ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE LINKED WITH THE TURKISH DCA. IF TRUE, KYPRIANOU SAID, THIS WOULD REPRESENT A RADICAL CHANGE FROM THE ASSURANCE PRESIDENT CARTER GAVE HIM IN NEW YORK OCT 5, "EHEN PRESIDENT CARTER SPECIFICALLY SAID THE ADMINISTARTION DOES LINK THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WITH THE TURKISH DCA AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSARE AT ONE ON THIS ISSUE."
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3. THE SECOND WORRYING REPORT CAME FROM UNIDENTIFIED US OFFICIALS IN ANKARA WHO WERE REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL PRESS FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE TURKISH BY THE END OF MARCH.

4. KYPRIOANOU SAID HE DOES NOT WISH TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL

AFFAIRS OF THE US, BUT USG SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF PRIMIN ECEVIT FEELS HE IS LIKELY TO RECEIVE MORE ASSISTANCE FROM THE US HE WILL NOT PRODUCE THE KIND OF CYPRUS PROPOSALS HE WOULD HAVE IF HE THOUGHT RENEWAL OF US AID WAS DEPENDENT ON PROGRESS IN CYPRUS. KYPRIANOU SAID IF THE TURKS GET MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED, THERE WILL BE NO CYPRUS SOLUTION FOR A LONG TIME.

5. CHRISTOPHIDES INTERVENED TO SAY THAT ACTING UN SPECREP GORGE HAD JUST CALLED ON FONOFF DIRGEN PELAGHIAS TO SAY SYG HAD LEARNED THAT TURKISH PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONCRETE AND COMPREHENSIVE BUT ONLY AN "OUTLINE" OF WHAT TURKS HAVE IN MIND. IF THIS IS TRUE, IT WILL MAKE THE RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT. CHRISTOPHIDES SPECULATED THAT ECEVIT MAY HAVE MOVED AWAY FROM HIS COMMITMENT TO CONCRETE PROPOSALS AFTER HIS MEETINGS WITH SECRETARY VANCE BECAUSE ECEVIT GAINED IMPRESSION US WILL PROCEED TO RATIFY THE TURKISH DCS SOON.

6. KYPRIANOU WANTED TO POINT UP ONE OTHER ASPECT OF THIS PROBLEM. IN THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF CYPRUS, KYPRIANOU AND HIS GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT CYPRUS SHOULD BE ORIENTED TOWARD THE WEST AND SPECIFICALLY THE US. HE HAD MADE SEVERAL SPEECHES ABOUT THIS ON HIS RETURN FROM HIS VISIT TO THE US IN OCTOBER AND HAD BEEN CRITICIZED FOR TAKING THIS POSITION. IF THE US LIFTS THE EMBARGO, IT WILL MAKE IT ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO MAINTAIN A PRO-WESTERN, PRO-US POLICY.

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7. CHARGE NOTED THAT WE HAD RECEIVED A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE PRIMIN ECEVIT HELD FOR AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ON JAN 21 (REF B) AND PROMISED TO SEND A COPY OF IT TO FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES IMMEDIATELY. CHARGE RECOLLECTED THAT ECEVIT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT MR. VANCE "SEEMS TO ACCEPT" THE REASONABLENESS OF DISSASSOCIATING THE CYPRUS AND DCA ISSUES AND THAT HE "GOT THE IMPRESSION" THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HOPES THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE TO TAKE UP THE DCA IN CONGRESS. CHARGE NOTED THAT THE ONLY PUBLIC STATEMENT (REF C) WE HAVE SEEN WHICH WAS MADE BY THE SECRETARY ON THE DCA WAS IN CONNECTION WITH PRIMIN ECEVIT'S COMMENT THAT THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CHANGED. THE SECRETARY HAD SAID HE WOULD PREFER NOT TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS ON THE MATTER AT THIS TIME.

8. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU CLOSED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT HE WAS "VERY MUCH WORRIED AND ANXIOUS TO BE ASSURED THAT THE SITUATION IS AS I UNDERSTAND IT FROM MY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER ON OCT 5." HE HOPED CHARGE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH VERY SOON TO GIVE THE ASSURANCES HE HAD REQUESTED.

9. SPEAKING TO CHRISTOPHIDES JUST AFTER KYPRIANOU MEETING BROKE UP, CHARGE NOTED THAT THE MOST RECENT STATEMENT OF POLICY ON

LINKAGE BY A SENIOR US OFFICIAL WAS COUNSELOR NIMETZ'S CON-
VERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR DIMITROU DEC 8 WHEN FORMER SAID THE
ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT LINKED ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TURKISH
DCA WITH THE CYPRUS ISSUE ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT CYPRUS IS
A MAJOR FACTOR AFFECTING CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS OUR
SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY AND AS A PRACTICAL MATTER
IT CANNOT BE EXPECTED THAT DCA COULD ENTER INTO EFFECT WITHOUT
SOLID AND DEMONSTRABLE PROGRESS ON CYPRUS. CHARGE SAID THIS
STILL IS VALID EXPRESSION OF US POLICY. CHRISTOPHIDES HAD NOT
RECALLED NIMETZ-DIMITRIOU CONVERSATION. HE SAID DIMITRIOU WILL
MAKE A DEMARCHE SIMILAR TO KYPRIANOU'S TO THE DEPT ON JAN 23
OR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER.

10. REQUEST GUIDANCE FOR RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU.
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